

Chester Cultural Council

Chester, MA

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Meeting Minutes

Attendance

Chair: Muriel Hall

Members: Karen Marchetto, Melissa McAuliffe, Carol Hepworth, Charles Schoonmaker and Kim Fox.

Meeting was called to order at 6:07pm

Previous meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

- April Mass Cultural Updates

The council reviewed Mass Cultural Council updates and discussed ways to promote funded LCC projects, including sharing project information on Facebook, posting Muriel's press release to the town website, and gathering project dates for public outreach.

The council also discussed hosting a reception for funded projects and prospective applicants as a community networking event.

- 2026 Grant Recipient Contract Status and issues

The council discussed Gateway's duplicate payment from last year. Gateway cashed both checks, the funds have not been returned to the CCC, and the required report has not yet been received for this year's fund release. Kim will follow up with Gateway administration. Muriel suggested Gateway return \$200 to the Cultural Council, after which the council would release this year's \$250 award.

Muriel raised questions about the community garden project at the Huntington Library, noting that the council understood it to be funded through the library, while it appears to be an independent project. The council discussed the need to clarify project details in future grant reviews.

- CCC Community Input Survey and Chester on Track Presence

The council discussed having a CCC presence near the library during Chester on Track and using the event to collect community input. A flyer will be created to explain the council's role and may include photos from past projects and dates for funded projects.

Melissa will create the flyer template for council review. Carol will help Muriel gather information, and Kim will review paperwork for funded project dates.

Andrew offered extra clipboards; pens will also be needed.

- 250th Anniversary CCC Banner

The council discussed a target date of July 4 for a banner celebrating Chester's 250th anniversary. The banner would highlight cultural aspects of town history. Muriel presented a list of events and milestones, and Melissa suggested an auditorium stop where visitors could learn more about each time period.

- 2027 Local Guidelines, Priorities, and Grant Reception

The council briefly discussed 2027 local guidelines and priorities, along with the possibility of holding a grant reception in September.

- Next Meeting

The next meeting was discussed for June 9th at 6:00 p.m.

Melissa McAuliffe made a motion to adjourn, Kim Fox seconded and all were in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:13pm.

Minutes submitted by



Kim Fox

6/16/26

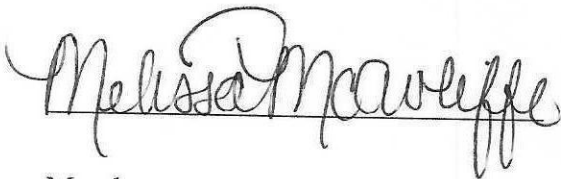
Date



Muriel Hall, Chair

6/16/2026

Date



Member

6/16/26

Date



Member

6/16/26

Date